

# ATG MIDPAC recognizes military families at ‘family night’

**STG1(SW) Bill Callaway**  
*ATG MIDPAC Public Affairs*

In observance of Military Family Appreciation Week, Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific (ATG MIDPAC) hosted the command’s first annual “Family Night”.

A large turnout of families and friends gathered for an opportunity to learn more about what their spouses, parents and friends do at work.

The night began with a picnic hosted by the Logistics Department at the command. While Lt. David Hiles, Ens. Clark, Petty Officer Prehodka and others grilled hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken for everyone to enjoy and Petty Officer Cadiente played Hawaiian music in the background, Capt. Martin Leghart, the Commodore at ATG MIDIPAC, welcomed everyone to what proved to be an enjoyable evening for all.

“We depend on our families and friends to support us,” said Capt. Leghart. “This is an opportunity to show our appreciation and show you what we do.”

Throughout the evening, ATG MIDPAC Sailors provided guided tours throughout the ATG compound and several special exhibits and demonstrations. Combat Systems trainers demonstrated the use of paint-ball guns that are used to train Pearl Harbor shipboard Sailors in Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) tactics. This demonstration included allowing a couple dozen children and some adults to take shots at targets set up by Fire Controlman Chief (SW) Robert Houck and his crew.

Another popular exhibit and demonstration set up by the Combat Systems folks quickly became known as “hit the red man” by everyone. This exhibit was a demonstration of the use of a baton to subdue an attacker – in this case, a Sailor covered from head to toe in a protective helmet and a red padded suit. Following a short demonstration, the children were allowed to use the foam rubber batons to try out some of the tactics for themselves.

“The children had the most fun using foam batons to beat up the red man,” said Houck, when asked what the kids enjoyed the most from his exhibits.

Safety Observer, Boatswain Mate Chief (SW) Doug Phillips said, “This is the first time for many of these folks to shoot any kind of a weapon. And these are all training tools of our trade.”

While those particular exhibits were especially popular with the kids, many children and the adults enjoyed school-house tours that included the radar navigation lab and micro-miniature electronic repair lab where visitors could actually look through a microscope at the intricate detail of a circuit card.

Other command personnel gave tours of their workspaces and classrooms and described the many things they do to provide training for Pearl Harbor ships. ATG firefighting personnel set up a static display with live demonstrations of how to properly don and operate Naval firefighting equipment.

“There is so much more interest in what we do as firefighters since recent events,” commented Damage Control



YN3 Bobby Williams photo

Curious children look at a shipboard radar repeater during “Family Night.”

Senior Chief (SW) John Walls.

The Search and Rescue (SAR) swimmer instructor, Quartermaster Chief (SW) J.J. Myers displayed his SAR gear and provided information and played video-training tapes of life-saving exercises.

ATG MIDPAC is the principle provider of pre-deployment training for the surface ships home-ported in Pearl Harbor. The command provides teams of senior enlisted subject matter experts to provide training onboard ships in a “train-the-trainer” effort. The command also functions as a Fleet Functional (“F”) school under the Chief

of Naval Education and Training (CNET), offering over 50 courses that Pearl Harbor Sailors would otherwise have to travel to San Diego to attend.

The first ATG MIDPAC family night was a big success in showing families and friends what their Sailors do at work.

One guest said, “I didn’t really know what he [her husband] did at work, but I can see that he’s busy every day providing valuable training to the ships – and it looks like it can be fun too.”

That comment indicated that the Family Night’s mission had been accomplished.

## Naval special warfare motivators to visit, inform Hawaii commands

**Lt. Katie Licup**  
*Naval Special Warfare Command*

Naval Special Warfare representatives will visit Pearl Harbor-based ships the week of Dec. 10 to provide information to Sailors about opportunities in the Sea-Air-Land (SEAL) and Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewman (SWCC) communities.

The NSW motivators will also meet with area career counselors, conduct physical screening tests for interested SEAL/SWCC candidates, and visit area high schools while they are on Oahu.

The schedule of events is as follows:

Dec. 8, 1 p.m. - SEAL/SWCC physical screen test at Ford Island pool. Candidates may

bring their service record (including ASVAB scores) and PRT record for review by the motivators.

Dec. 11, 10 a.m. - Information session for interested candidates and the opportunity to discuss NSW careers with experienced SEAL/SWCC personnel at the dining room of Lockwood Hall.

Dec. 11, 1 p.m. - SEAL/SW-

CC physical screen test at Ford Island pool.

Dec. 13, 10 a.m. - SEAL/SW-CC physical screen test at Ford Island pool.

Dec. 13, 1 p.m. - Information session for interested candidates and the opportunity to discuss NSW careers with experienced SEAL/SWCC personnel at Sharkey Theater on Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Ship visits will occur throughout the week. For more information on Naval Special Warfare, including entrance requirements, please visit [www.seal.navy.mil](http://www.seal.navy.mil).

For information on how to reach the Motivators when they are in Hawaii, contact Chief Alford at (808) 473-5831.